

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Territorial Sea Shrimp Re-Opening

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons, and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall have the authority to open or close outside waters by zone each year as it deems appropriate upon inspection of and based upon technical and biological data which indicates that marketable shrimp, in sufficient quantities, are available for harvest, and a resolution adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on December 3, 2009 which authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to reopen any area closed to shrimping when the closure is no longer necessary, the Secretary hereby declares:

That State Outside Waters from the eastern shore of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the Channel red buoy line to the U.S. Coast Guard navigational light off the northwest shore of Caillou Boca at 29 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds north latitude and 90 degrees 50 minutes 27 seconds west longitude, shall reopen to shrimping at 6:00 a.m., April 21, 2010.

Recent biological samples taken by Department personnel indicate that small white shrimp which have over-wintered in these waters from December through the present time have reached marketable sizes and the closure is no longer necessary. Significant numbers of small white shrimp still remain in State Outside Waters west of the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou Canal at 92 degrees 18 minutes 33 seconds west longitude, and this area will remain closed to shrimping until further notice.

Robert J. Barham
Secretary